

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Kelly, Joyce](#); [Fleming, Sheila](#); [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Air quality concerns  
**Date:** Friday, September 19, 2014 12:04:23 PM

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So if I understand this correctly, I was mistaken when I assumed that this agency viewed excellence as a desired metric, particularly related to issues of protecting human health and the environment. But now I'm informed that the only metric on which performance is judged is that we've met minimum requirements. Or even less than minimum requirements when it comes to meeting health-based metrics. I'm sure all the PRPs under oversight by our Superfund program will be relieved to learn they no longer have to be bothered with pesky little things like making sure their analytical results, or even their cleanup goals be in any way related to health-based metrics.

(b) (6)

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**From:** Kelly, Joyce  
**Sent:** Friday, September 19, 2014 8:40 AM  
**To:** R10-OEA Mail Group  
**Cc:** Voytilla, Marykay; Greaves, Natasha; Chu, Ed  
**Subject:** Air quality concerns

Hello OEA,

I, members of your management team, and our Health and Safety Program have been working with OMP to raise and resolve air quality concerns that some of you on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor have expressed. This week, a meeting was held between OMP and OEA management and H&S staff to review the current state of air quality information and to determine if additional actions are recommended. Following that meeting, May Kay prepared and sent the summary below to Region 10 Union officials.

- All air quality data received to date is posted on the Park Place Remodel website Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) webpage and available for review
- Each floor passed LEED IAQ requirements prior to occupancy as required by the existing lease between GSA and Washington Holdings (Lessor) for EPA space in the Park Place building
- GSA determined that the Lessor is meeting the terms of the lease for air quality data collection and therefore declined to go forward with a request to the Lessor to analyze additional constituents or

take additional samples beyond the required LEED protocol (see attachment 1)

- As indicated in attachment 1, GSA requested enhanced ventilation of the Lessor on newly remodeled floors. As this action would be beyond the requirements of the lease, the Lessor responded with the cost to the government to do so (see attachment 2)
- GSA clarified that floors 14 and 15 did receive one full week of enhanced ventilation at no cost to the government (i.e., 24/7 venting) due to the water leak on floor 15 (see attachment 3)
- GSA reviewed ventilation requirements of the lease and determined that the Lessor is meeting and in some cases exceeding the lease requirements (see attachment 2)
- To the extent possible, the Union has been kept apprised of employee concerns and actions taken by OMP and OEA management and health & safety staff. At the last Labor Management Partnership Forum H&S committee meeting, there was no consensus reached regarding the need for additional air quality actions.
- Flex cubes have been provided on other floors for staff use on a temporary basis if impacted by construction noise, odors, etc. In addition, four flex cubes have been set-up on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor so that staff have the opportunity to work in an un-remodeled space/flex cube.
- Some employees remain concerned about indoor air quality. A FOIA has been submitted to Region 10 by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility. The FOIA requests, among other things, information about indoor air quality.

The remodel team will work with GSA to verify that the ventilation system on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor is functioning as designed and working properly. OEA management also raised concerns regarding the temperature and air flow in the Elwha conference room. Yesterday, OMP reported that building management reset the fan terminal unit (air conditioning unit) in Elwha. That fix is currently being tested. No additional actions, beyond those identified above, are being pursued.

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